

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE:ITEM 12.1:
UNESCO'S CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE

REFS: A) PARIS 25888; B) DOCUMENT 18 C/PLEN./DR.5

1. US DEL SHOULD VOTE AGAINST REFERENCED DR, WHICH DEALS
WITH DG'S REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL LIFE IN
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES (DOC. 18 C/16), AND PROVIDE
FOLLOWING EXPLANATION:

2. THE SUPPORT OF THE US FOR UNESCO IN ITS WORK IN
EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION IS WELL-
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KNOWN -- AS WELL KNOWN AS OUR CONVICTION THAT THE GROWING

INTRUSION OF POLITICS INTO ITS DELIBERATIONS CAN ONLY
HINDER ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS IN THESE FIELDS.

3. THE REPORT OF THE DG ON THE SITUATION OF THE
NATIONAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL LIFE OF PEOPLES IN THE
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES IS A COMMENDABLE EFFORT WHICH
ENABLES US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE CONDITIONS IN THESE
AREAS. IT IS WORK WELL DONE, WRITTEN TO GIVE AN OBJECTIVE

ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND NOT TO PROVIDE
CONDEMNATIONS.

4. IN CONTRAST TO THIS TONE IS THIRD PREAMBULAR PARA
OF THE DR, WHICH STATES THAT THE POPULATIONS IN THE
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES ARE NOT ENJOYING THEIR RIGHTS
TO NATIONAL EDUCATION AND CULTURAL LIFE. A CAREFUL
READING OF THE DG'S REPORT INDICATES THAT THE PEOPLES
INVOLVED DO INDEED ENJOY THESE RIGHTS, ALTHOUGH THERE
IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. THIS IS HARDLY SURPRISING.
IT IS UNFORTUNATE, HOWEVER, THAT THE DR CHOSE TO MAKE
SWEEPING ALLEGATIONS RATHER THAN CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS.

5. OUR SECOND AND MORE SERIOUS OBJECTION IS TO FIRST
OPERATIVE PARA WHICH INVITES DG TO EXERCISE QUOTE FULL
SUPERVISION END QUOTE OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
INSTITUTIONS IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. THIS FAR
EXCEEDS UNESCO'S MANDATE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO
MEMBER STATES. WHILE WE FULLY SUPPORT RIGHTS TO
NATIONAL AND CULTURAL LIFE IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB
TERRITORIES, WE BELIEVE THEM BETTER ACHIEVED BY COOPERATION
BETWEEN UNESCO, THE OCCUPYING AUTHORITIES AND THE ARAB
PEOPLES CONCERNED.

FYI: RESOLUTION APPEARS DIRECTLY TO CONTRADICT RES.
ADOPTED NOVEMBER 7 ASKING DG TO SUSPEND UNESCO ASSISTANCE
TO ISRAEL. END FYI.

6. DEL COULD ABSTAIN IF TWO OPERATIVE PARAS CITED
ABOVE, TO WHICH WE OBJECT, WERE SUFFICIENTLY MODIFIED
IN COURSE OF DEBATE (US DEL SHOULD NOT TAKE LEAD,
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HOWEVER) SO THAT A) THERE IS RECOGNITION THAT THERE IS
ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT BUT THAT RIGHTS ARE BEING ENJOYED
BY PEOPLES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES; B) REQUEST TO DG TO
SUPERVISE OPERATION OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
INSTITUTIONS IS REPLACED BY REQUEST THAT DG KEEP SITUATION
UNDER CONSTANT STUDY AND REVIEW, IN COOPERATION WITH
ALL STATES CONCERNED, WITH VIEW TO ASSISTING PEOPLES IN
OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO ATTAIN MAXIMUM ENJOYMENT OF

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS. KISSINGER

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